



M. L.

Gc
929.2
H555h1
1568100

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

✓

6c
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01332 0830



GENEALOGY

1852

HILL FAMILY

FROM 1652.

— SELECTING —

Biographical Sketch.

— BY —

JOEL BARLOW.

pp 13-58 missing in original

Moses Hill

1568100

GENEALOGY
OF THE
HILL FAMILY
FROM 1632,
INCLUDING A
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH
OF
JOEL BARLOW.

EVEENEZER J. HILL:

My Dear Son: As you have frequently desired me to give you some account of our ancestry and family relations, I present you with the following, together with some references to the place of our nativity:

I am gratified to find myself in possession of so little, in relation to the early history of my native town. I will give you, however, what I have, and, also, some account of the Hill and Barlow families, going back as far as I can and bringing down their genealogical history as perfectly as my materials will allow, to the present time, including my own family record, as you have requested.

The Hill family was not among the earliest settlers of Redding, but the Barlow family, into which my father married in 1701, I think, was. Redding, I believe, was set off from Fairfield, my father's

native town, in May, 1767, and called Reddi. But for about 20 years before this, the date of organization as a town, it existed as a parish in Fairfield and was called Reading, the orthography of its name being R-e-a-d-i-n-g, instead of R-e-d-d-i-n-g, as it is now called, and spelled after the name of Col. Read, one of its first and most prominent settlers. But I have frequently heard my father say, (and he was perfectly familiar with the details of its organization) that when the inhabitants of the parish met to apply to the legislature for a town charter, they voted distinctly and sharply (I suppose under the influence of local partyism) that the name be not *Reading*, after Col. Read, as the parish had been called, but that it be written *Redding*; and that it was so named and written in the charter in accordance with this vote. It would seem that there must have been some such action as this, for the early records of the town, and I think the late ones as well, down to the present time for over 100 years, spell the name *Redding*, which would have been quite unlikely to have occurred without some such authoritative influence as would be naturally exerted by such an action. The probability is that the name would have gone into the records of the town as it had been in the records of the parish if its orthography had not been altered by competent authority.

It appears from several old works and documents on early colonial history in the library of the legislature at Hartford that the name of the earliest ancestor of our Hill family in this country was Wm. Hill, who, on his arrival here about 1632, twelve years after the Mayflower, settled for awhile in Dorchester, Mass., and then after a time ret

to Windsor, on the Connecticut River above Hartford, where he bought land and set out an orchard. From here he very early removed to Fairfield where he lived and died, and his last will and testament is recorded in an ancient volume of the records of the "*Particular Court*" for Fairfield Co., in the above named library. In this carefully written document he gives the names of the different members of his family and his bequests to each. The above noted facts are brought out in the following quotations: In a book entitled "*Founders of New England*," page 11, is the following: "Wm. Hill with others arrived in Boston in ship 'William and Frances,' June 5th, 1632." In the "*History of Genealogies of Ancient Windsor*," page 664, it says "Wm. Hill had land granted him at Dorchester, Mass., Nov. 2d, 1635." He removed from Dorchester to Windsor, but probably not with the first company that went there: was appointed in 1639 to view arms and ammunition in the towns: was elected deputy or representative and served from 1639 to 1641, also in 1644, and was auditor of public accounts in 1639. After this service in the House of Representatives he was elected Assistant or Senator and was Collector of Customs at Fairfield. In the 2d vol. of the Records of Particular Court, which is now called Court of Probate, is given the last will and testament of "Mr. Wm. Hill," dated Sept. 9th, 1649, and admitted to probate May 15th, 1650. In the "*Genealogical History of New England*," vol. from D to J, page 420, it says "Wm. Hill, a man of note among the first settlers, who probably came in the Mary and John, Nov. 5th, 1633, was selectman in 1636, and removed to Windsor, of which he was representative

Probate Court, at Fairfield, by some means, and is found in the library of the legislature at Hartford. It says that the will of Wm. Hill was admitted to probate May 15th, 1650, consequently he must have died before this date if the date is correct, but four years after, in 1654, this same "Wm. Hill, Sen.," makes a conveyance of land in Fairfield to his son, Wm., who is characterized in the conveyance as "Wm. Hill, Jun.," which would seem to imply that "Wm. Hill, Sen.," was still alive and that the date 1650, of the admission of his will to probate, cannot be correct. May not the 0 in the date 1650 in the original document have really been a 6 or a 9, instead of a 0, as written by the copyist? If so, this discrepancy would be removed. The above named conveyance is found in the 10th vol. of the Registry of Deeds for Fairfield, of which Wm. Hill, Jun., was at this time Register, as he was for many years after.

2. For the facts contained in the three following generations or steps in this line, that is, the families of the son of the first Wm., the family of his grand-son, and the family of his great-grand-son, all named William, I am indebted to my friend, Wm. Sherwood, of Greenfield, who collected them from the Probate Records of Fairfield. I suppose them to be correct, though I have not been able to verify their accuracy by comparing them with the record.

Wm. HILL—Died Dec. 10th, 1684. Elizabeth was the name of his wife; their children were:

- Sarah, married Richard Widdon,
Wm., died 1725.
- Joseph, died 1696; no children.

John, his wife Jane ; he died 1727.

Eliphalet, his wife Esther : he died 1695.

Ignatius,

James—seven. We remark:

1. This Wm. appears to have succeeded to the offices and public services of his father, in which he seems to have been engaged till near the close of life.

III. Wm. HILL—Died in 1728. Children—the above:

Sarah,

Wm., wife, Sarah ; he died in 1739.

Joseph,

David, wife, Abigail ; he died 1737.

IV. DEACON Wm. HILL—Died 1739. Sarah the name of his wife. Children as follows:

Joseph, wife Abigail, died 1797, aged 97 y

Wm., died 1775.

David.

V. DEACON JOSEPH HILL—Born April 1st, 1666, died March 6th, 1797, aged 97. Married Abigail Dimon Mch. 30, 1731, born, died Apr. 25, 1771. Children of this marriage:

Abigail, born March 21st, 1732.

Sarah, born Aug. 21st, 1733.

David, born Apr. 22d, 1737, died Mar. 26th, 1742.

Elenezer, Feb. 20th, 1742, died Mar. 27th, 1748.

Jabez, born June 17th, 1744, died Oct. 9, 1770.

Moses, born Jan. 11th, 1748, died Oct. 30, 1777.

Of these children we remark as follows:

1. Abigail married David Gould and had eight children, Dimon, David, Sarah, Eunice, Abigail, Esther, Mabel and Charity, and died in Fairfield at an advanced age.

2. Sarah married Wm. Wakeman and lived :

died in Fairfield

3. David was never married: died at home in his 3d year at his father's house.

4. Jabez Hill settled in Weston: was a major in the army of the Revolution: a man of ability, died of consumption at about forty years of age. The following is all I have of his family record:

MAJOR JABEZ HILL—Born June 17th, 1744, died Dec. 9, 1779, aged 35 years; married Sarah Read, daughter of Col. John Read, after whom the parish of Reading was named. The children of this marriage were:

Sarah,

John Read,

Moses.

Of these, Sarah married Timothy Platt and had the following children, Sarah Read, Moses, Timothy and Lemuel. Moses married and had the following children, Moses Read, Henry, Walter and William, while living on Long Island, but while his family was young he left suddenly and never returned.

JOHN READ HILL—Born April 26th, 1775, died July 29th, 1851, married Betsey Sanford, daughter of Aaron Sanford, Mar. 23d, 1799. She was born Oct. 5th, 1781, died July 29th, 1818. Children of this marriage as follows:

Aaron Sanford, born Mar. 23d, 1800.

Moses, born Feb. 5th, 1802.

Wm. Hawley, born Mar. 29th, 1804.

Betsey, born Mar. 6th, 1806.

John Lee, born June 15th, 1810.

Morris, born Oct. 6th, 1812.

Lydia, born Mar. 26th, 1815.

Joseph, born August 21st, 1817.

Married Deborah Reard, second wife, Sept. 18
5. **MOSES HILL**—Born Jan. 11th, 1748, died
13th, 1777, aged 29. Married Esther B
daughter of Ebenezer Barr, June 17th, 17
She was born May 29th, 1753, died Oct. 6
1836, aged 81 years. Children of this marri
were as follows:

Wm., born April 30th, 1774.

Abigail, born Oct. 14th, 1776.

Esther, born June 17th, 1777. Of these c
dren, the eldest,

WM. HILL, married Betsey Barlow, daughter
Nathaniel Barlow. She was born Aug.
1778, died Sept. 9th, 1864, aged 86. Child
of this marriage as follows:

Bradley Hill, born Sept. 9th, 1798.

Abigail, born Nov. 23, 1800, died Sept. 16, 18

Horace, born Dec. 15, 1802, died March, 1877

Barr, born Dec. 23, 1804, died Jan. 20, 1810.

Wm., born Oct. 6, 1807, died 1815.

The following are the details of my grandf
er Hill's Family Record as far as I have it:

VI. EBENEZER HILL—Born Feb. 20th, 17
died March 27th, 1798. Married Mabel S
wood Jan. 17th, 1765. She was born Dec.
1745, died Oct. 20th, 1820. Children of
marriage as follows:

David, born July 7, 1766, died Dec. 24, 1848.

Ebenezer, born Feb. 20, 1768, died May 5, 1844

Seth, born Dec. 22, 1769, died Dec. 10, 1825.

Dimon, born Oct. 1771, died Dec. 8, 1793.

Joseph, born May 3, 1774, died April 10, 1810.

Mabel, born Sept. 1776, died July 8, 1779.

Eleanor, born Aug. 29, 1778, died July 22, 17

Jabez, born June 13, 1780, died Aug. 2, 1807.

Father, born Oct. 26, 1785, died Aug. 27, 1804.

REMARKS.

1. Ebenezer Hill, my grandfather, lived and died in Fairfield, at the age of 56; he was not possessed of a robust constitution, but was seldom sick; he served as a captain in the army of the Revolution from the beginning to the end of the war. He was a member of the Congregational Church, of which his father and grandfather were deacons.

2. His eldest son, David, was educated by his father for the ministry, and though he entered upon this service he had no relish for it, and on the death of his patron he retired from the work and engaged in more congenial employment: was judge of the Court of Probate for many years till he was debarred by age from this service; was frequently a member of the legislature, both of the house and senate; was a member of the committee for revising the Constitution of the state and was engaged in public business nearly all his life. Married _____, had two children, Dimon and David. Lived and died in Fairfield at the age of 52.

3. Seth settled in Weston, married _____

_____ had four children as follows:

Polly, born Meh. 5, 1795, died Dec. 30, 1824.

Joseph, born Feb. 19, 1797, died Aug. 20, 1832. of cholera.

Wakeman, born Nov. 23, 1804.

Edward, born Nov. 10, 1814, died Nov. 15, 1875. Died in Weston at the age of 55.

4. Joseph, married _____, settled in Liberty, Sullivan Co., N. Y., and died there at the age of 42; his children were:

Benjamin,

Sherwood.

Eliza,

Esther.

Sally

Arreta,

Joseph.

Celina.

5. Jabez married _____, had
child, Esther, and died in Fairfield at the age of _____

6. Dimon, Mabel, Eleanor and Esther, the
ance of Ebenezer Hill's family, except his son
enezer, all died young.

The following is a copy of my father's family
record:

VII. EBENEZER HILL—Born in Fairfield,
20th, 1768, died in Redding, May 5th.

Married Sarah Barlow, daughter of Nat
Barlow, of Redding, May, 1791. She was
Jan. 16th, 1770, died April 11th, 1845.

children of this marriage were as follows:

Mabel, born Dec. 17th, 1791, married Danie
let; had no children, died of consumption
10th, 1845.

Nathaniel Barlow, born Oct. 23, 1793.

Gershom, born Mar. 10, 1796, died Jan. 4, 18

Ebenezer, born Oct. 11, 1797, died June 10,

Moses, born Oct. 7, 1804.

Jabez, born Mar. 5, 1808, died of consumpti

Key West, Jan. 27, 1831, at the age of 23.

REMARKS.

1. Nathaniel Barlow, the eldest son of this
ily, married Sarah Read Platt, daughter of
thy Platt, Mar. 15, 1817. She was born N
1793, died June 2, 1856. Their children wer
Eliza, born June 11, 1818.

in June 10, 1820.
in Nov. 19, 1822.
B., born Oct. 11, 1824, died May 6, 1861.
born Sept. 15, 1820.
, born April 17, 1832.
er, born April 13, 1840.
ershom married Cemantha Gregory, daughter
Gregory, ; their

en were:

Abby Jane,

Moses,

Label.

Ebenezer married Hannah Lyon, daughter of
let Lyon, May 8, 1830. She was born Dec.

17. Their children were:

arah Eleanor, born Mar. 27, 1840.

rances A., Jan. 15, 1845.

nna Maria, Feb. 6, 1847.

ebenezer, Oct. 5, 1849.

David, Dec. 4, 1851.

Charles J., Feb. 21, 1860.

Moses married Phebe Minerva Rockwell,
ter of Thomas Rockwell, of Ridgefield, May

31. She was born Jan. 15, 1804, died in

Me., Mar. 30, 1832. Child of this marriage

rd Watson, born Mar. 25, 1832, in York, Me.

Mar. 30, 1832. Married 2d wife, Charlotte

Mc'Lellan, daughter of Stephen Mc'Lellan,

tland, Me., Oct. 5, 1836. She was born

8, 1810, died in Norwalk, Ct., Dec. 26,

Children of this marriage were as follows:

Augusta, born May 20, 1838, in Redding, Ct.,

1 Sept. 6, 1852, in Hartford, Ct.

Jane, born July 2, 1840, in Gardiner, Me.,

May 30, 1860, in Norwalk.

Charlotte Hsley, born in Bucksport, Me. 1. 22, 1842.

Moses Asbury, born Oct. 9, 1843, in Saco, Me., died July 11, 1867, in Norwalk, Ct.

Ebenezer, born Aug. 4, 1845, in Redding.

Minerva R., born Aug. 3, 1847, in Gardine, Me., died Sept. 20, 1848, in Saco, Me.

Harriet Benson, born Dec. 20, 1849, in Winthrop, Me., died Aug. 22, 1852, in Hartford, Ct.

Married 3d wife, Mrs. Minerva S. Parnton, daughter of James Seymour, of Ludgemoor, Ct., Mar. 31, 1856. She was born Jan. 14, 1816.

THE BARLOW FAMILY.

My mother's maiden name was Sarah Barlow, daughter of Nathaniel Barlow, of Redding, who died Dec. 26, 1782, which was the son of Samuel Barlow, of Redding, who died Dec. 20, 1773, which was the son of Samuel Barlow, of Fairfield, who died May 20, 1745, which was the son of John Barlow who died in 1690, which was the son of John Barlow who died in 1674.

Commencing now with the last named John I give you all the details I have of the Barlow family in a direct line down to the family of Nathaniel.

I. JOHN BARLOW— died in 1674. Ann was the name of his wife. Their children were:

John—only son.

Deborah, married John Sturges.

Ruth, married Francis Bradley.

Martha, married James Beers.

II. JOHN BARLOW— died in 1690. The name of his wife was Abigail, daughter of Robert Lockwood. The children were:

ceived from Yale the title of A. M., on which occasion he delivered a poem on the "Prospect of Peace," which was subsequently embraced in his "Vision of Columbus." About this time he married Miss Baldwin of New Haven, a sister of Abraham Baldwin, for many years a distinguished member of Congress from Georgia.

In 1783, after peace was declared, he settled in Hartford, Conn., and resumed the study of law, and to help his finances edited the "American Mercury." While engaged in this business, being requested by the "Congregational General Association, of Conn." he revised Dr. Watt's version of the Psalms and Hymns, which revision was published in 1786, comprising several devotional pieces of his own composition. It is believed that about this time he published a work on the book of Job in which he rendered the entire book in verse.

In 1787 he published his patriotic and popular poem entitled the "Vision of Columbus," and it met with very flattering success, in Europe as well as in this country. The next year, 1788, he went to England and France in the interest of an "Ohio Land Co." and became somewhat identified with the Girondist leaders of the French Revolution. He entered with enthusiasm into their plans and gave them the cordial support of his genius, his experience, and vigorous pen.

In 1791 he returned from France to England and published his advice to the "Privileged Orders;" in which he exposes with the hand of a master the abuses of the feudal governments of Europe. The next year he published a poem entitled "The Conspiracy of Kings." These publications rendered him very offensive to the ministe-

rial party in England, and accordingly near the close of the year he left for France, where he was received with great cordiality and respect, and soon after had conferred upon him the rights of a French citizen. In 1793 he assisted in the organization of Savoy as a department of the French Republic. While at Chamberry in that department he wrote a political address to the people of Piedmont, and amused himself in writing his poem on "Hasty Pudding." After his return to Paris he translated "Volney's Ruins," and being greatly shocked at the atrocious conduct of the leaders of the French Revolution he withdrew entirely from politics. It is believed that it was about this time Mr. Paine consulted him in regard to the expediency of publishing his "Age of Reason," and Mr. Barlow is reported to have charged him solemnly not to do it.

In 1795 he was appointed by President Washington Consul to Algiers, with power to form treaties with the Barbary States and procure the release of the American prisoners which were held there in slavery; and having succeeded in accomplishing the purposes of his mission he resigned his Consulship and returned to Paris. About this time there occurred a rupture between France and the United States, and Mr. Barlow exerted himself greatly to bring about an amicable adjustment. For this purpose he addressed a letter to the people of the United States in reference to the measures of the party in power, and this was soon followed by another, of marked ability, discussing the principles of maritime law and the rights of neutrals. In 1805, after an absence of seventeen years, he determined to revisit his native land, and

the scenes of his youth. His adopted country having failed to secure her liberties, and being now ruled by the iron hand of a despot, he sold out his real estate in France, and sailed for America. On his arrival in this country he visited the scenes of his childhood and youth and finally purchased, and located himself in a beautiful situation in the vicinity of Georgetown, District of Columbia, in the immediate neighborhood of the general government officials, with whom he was on terms of great intimacy. In 1806 he projected a plan of a National University, which, though it was referred to a committee of the Senate, met with considerable opposition and ultimately failed. He now gave his attention to the completion of the great poem of his life, "The Columbiad," and in 1808 published it in a style of unexampled magnificence for that early period of book making in this country, but its high price limited its circulation; it was, however, republished the following year in two volumes, and a very fine edition published in London. In 1811, after the Columbiad was off his hands, he diligently engaged in collecting materials for writing a History of the United States, a work which he had long meditated, he was appointed minister plenipotentiary to the French government. On his arrival in Paris he applied himself with great diligence to the duties of his new position, and made every exertion to accomplish the purposes of his mission. In the first part of the winter of 1812, being invited by the Emperor, the first Napoleon, to a conference of ministers, at Wilna, in Poland, he left Paris and proceeded by forced stages, traveling night and day in the slow and hard conveyances of the

time, annoyed with multitudinous discomforts, especially with the character of the public houses, and the cold of an almost Siberian winter, he urged his way on through a tedious overland journey of about a thousand miles toward his destination. In Poland they came in contact with the shattered remnant of the French army in full retreat from the terrible disasters of its Russian campaign. The streets at length were found to be so obstructed with piles of dead men and dead horses frozen like rocks that it was almost impossible to proceed. In some instances platoons were seen standing together frozen to death. Under these accumulated hardships the health of Mr. Barlow gave way and finally broke down entirely, so that he was compelled to stop at a place called Lasnavica, a small village in the neighborhood of Cracow, where he died in a few days, on the 22d of December, 1812. His attendants were compelled to hurry up his burial and also their own departure on the return journey in order to escape an inextricable entanglement in the retreating army of the Emperor, who had left it to its fate and fled across the country *in cog* to Paris like a wounded dog to the protection of his kennel.

While Mr. Barlow was dying amid the rigors of an Arctic winter in Poland, from the effect of the super-human efforts he had made to respond to the call of the Emperor to meet him there, the latter was quietly ensconced in his palace at home, where he arrived at midnight, December 18th, a few hours before the death of the former.

Thus ended the career of Joel Barlow, in the 59th year of his age. I saw his nephew, Thomas Barlow, who was with him as his private secretary,

after his return to this country, and heard him depict the terrible sufferings of that journey and the scenes of his uncle's death. He said that on his return journey to Paris the cold was so intense that the driver of his conveyance had to whip him with great severity to keep him from freezing to death.

I give you now the family record of my grandfather, Nathaniel Barlow, as follows:

V. NATHANIEL BARLOW, born May 13, 1745, died December 26, 1782. Married Jane Bradley.

She was born May, 1744, died Feb. 12, 1829. Children of this marriage were:

Gershom, born Oct. 21, 1765, died of consumption Sept. 24, 1794.

Esther, born Sept. 30, 1767, a deaf mute, died May 10, 1783.

Sarah, born Jan. 16, 1770, my mother, died April 11, 1845.

Jonathan, born April 14, 1772, died Aug. 28, 1775.

Betsey, born Aug. 2, 1778, Bradley Hill's mother, Sept. 9, 1864.

I 1, born April 3, 1780, a deaf mute, died 29, 1787.

REMARKS.

Nathaniel Barlow, the father of this family, born in Fairfield, and he was about four years when his father, Samuel Barlow, removed in there and settled in Redding, Nathaniel appears always to have lived at home with his father, both before and after his marriage; it was here, all his children were born, and there all but two of them died. After arriving at suitable age while the other sons left he seems to have remained at home and worked the farm and after the death of his father and mother, the homestead, to-

precisely what a majority of the voters of the Parish, in the meeting referred to, intended it should mean, and be, namely, an abstract designation of the town, like most names of places, and especially like Redding in Scotland, and Redding a township in Jackson Co., Indiana, neither commemorating Col. Reed or anyone else.

2. The Encyclopedia Americana, the English Encyclopedia, and Appleton's Encyclopedia, say that Joel Barlow was born at Redding, Conn., in 1755, while Burbour's Historical collections fix the date of his birth "in or about the year 1755," but the Encyclopedia Britannica says his birth occurred in 1756, while the London Encyclopedia says he was born in 1757, but the public records of his native town say he was born March 24th, 1754. It may be said that the difference between "old style" and "new" may explain some of these discrepancies, but when it is remembered that "new style" was introduced into Great Britain and America and made universally obligatory by an act of Parliament in 1752, by dropping eleven days from the calendar after Sept. 2d, and calling Sept. 3d Sept. 14th, 1752, that all of the above dates are of course in "new style" and do not touch the discrepancies at all.

Nearly all the encyclopedias and other histories of the life of Joel Barlow, and the reports of his edition as well, seem to assume that he was left an orphan, by the death of his father, in early childhood, whereas the truth is he lived but three months and four days of being seventy years old when his father died. Also it seems generally to have been assumed that his father was a man of quite limited means, whereas

he appears to have been a substantial farmer of more than ordinary means for that time.

4. There has been some difference of opinion expressed in regard to the place in Redding where Joel Barlow was born. The general opinion is, I believe, that he was born at the old Samuel Barlow homestead where the family lived at the time as indicated above; while others maintain that he was born at the farm afterwards occupied and owned by his elder brother, Col. Aaron Barlow, on Umpawog hill; others again maintain that he was born on a farm bought of Seth Hull but a little north and east of Samuel Barlow's first purchase, and upon which Huldah, Joel's youngest sister subsequently settled with her husband, whose name was Bennett; while others again maintain that he was born at a house about one mile south of Redding center, on the "Cross-highway." In reply to all this we remark that from Jan. 2d, 1749 to the day of his death in 1773, Samuel Barlow made, as appears from the records, eleven purchases of real estate, and only eleven, in Redding, and for which he paid 3,828 pounds, 10 shillings and 7 pence. His first purchase, as we have seen, was the farm of 170 acres, "with the dwelling-house thereon." The dwelling-house on it was a substantial, two-story building in front, with a roof in the rear extending down to the top of the first story, altogether suitable in size for the family on which it was located and of sufficient capacity to meet the wants of the family which was to occupy it, and it was built after the model of the best farm-houses of the time. This property was unquestionably bought by Samuel Barlow of James Bradley in 1749, for a permanent residence for himself

family, and was ever after occupied as such and ever after retained in the Barlow family and its descendants, as we have seen, down to the present time,—a period of 130 years. It was here that Mr. Barlow lived and died, it was here that his last four children including his youngest son Joel were born.

2. The next purchase which Mr. Barlow made was about two years after the first, in 1751, consisting of seven acres and twenty rods, called the "Flat Ridge," bought of John Guire. The next purchase in 1752, consisting of two acres and three rods at the "Flat Ridge" and bought of Mary Guire.

In 1755 another purchase was made near the same locality, of John Osborn, consisting of eight acres and three-quarters.

In 1758 an exchange of land was made with the town for the purpose of laying out a direct road leading south from the main east and west road to the "Flat Ridge". Stephen Burr and Lemuel Sanford represented the town in the transaction.

In 1761 a purchase of sixteen acres was made of Stephen Betts, bounded "Northerly by Samuel Barlow's own land", and part of it consisting of "Bogg Meadow."

In 1765 another part of "Flat Ridge" was purchased of George Patchen, consisting of twelve acres.

These last named six purchases seem to have been made by Mr. Barlow as additions to his farm of 170 acres which he purchased at first, and were on different sides of it, and together, making a considerable enlargement of his farm; and the entire tract is described as bounded north by "the first

Cross-highway from the rear" of the "Long Lots."

3. The remaining purchases, referred to below, north of said highway, appear to have been made by Mr. Barlow, not for his own immediate use, but as locations for his children; for instance,

In 1753 he bought of James Bradley over fifty acres near the line between Kidgefield and Redding, and in 1761 added to this a purchase of over fifty acres more—bought of Ezekiel Bradley and Ebenezer Lobdell, all of which on March 30th, 1770, he conveyed to his son James, who lived and died there.

Again on the 23d of January, 1762, he bought a farm of fifty-four acres of Seth Hull, located mostly on the north side of "the first Cross-highway from the rear" of the "Long Lots" and bounded by it on the south, and situated about north-east from his own residence, on which his youngest daughter, Huldah, after her marriage with Mr. Bennett, was located. It was at a house on this property that, as some have maintained Joel Barlow was born; but this could not be for there is no evidence that his father's family ever lived at any time on this property and indeed it was not purchased, as is seen by a comparison of the date of the purchase with the date of his birth, till seven years and ten months *after* his birth. So far therefore is this from being the birth-place of Joe that it was not purchased till he was seven years and six months old.

In 1764 Samuel Barlow bought of Phineas Chapman, at Umpawaug, fifty-six acres of land which may have constituted part of the farm on which his son, Col. Aaron, was subsequently lo-

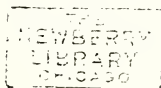
cated,—the balance of which was bought by Aaron himself of other parties. On this property, also, it is maintained by some that Joel was born, but it is perfectly clear that his father's family never lived on Unpawaug, and that the property bought there was not purchased till Nov. 23^d, 1764, when Joel was over ten years old; we conclude, therefore, that this could not have been his birth-place.

4. As the above indicated purchases comprise all the real estate which Samuel Barlow bought from Jan. 20, 1749, the date of his first purchase in Redding, to the day of his death, as appears from the records, and all of them were located in the western part of the town, and not one of them in the eastern part, we conclude that the mere traditional report that the birth-place of Joel Barlow was on a property owned and occupied by his father "about a mile below Redding Center" on "Cross Highway," is like another tradition, that he was left an orphan by the death of his father in early childhood, entirely without evidence and against the authority of the record.

Our final conclusion therefore is that Joel Barlow was born in Redding, Conn., at the house on the first purchase his father made in Redding, and where his family lived at the time, March 24th. 1754.

MOSES HILL.

Norwalk, December 20, 1879.



1922

